

REMARKSClaim Objections

The claims were objected to for not being in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution.

The claims have been correctly renumbered, and amended as necessary to correct dependency.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 2 and 5-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geno et al in view of Reese et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

As noted in the rejection, Geno does not teach a tag made from a sheet material, and the teachings of Reese et al are solely relied upon for teachings regarding applying a tag. The tag of Reese is acknowledged to be "comprised of several individual pieces," those pieces being a wire that is non-removably secured and a tag that is attached to the wire which may be readily removed from the wire.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that it is a portion of the sheet material forming the tag that is non-removably secured between the sleeve and retainer.

The sheet material of Reese is not so secured. Nor is the looped wire a sheet material.

It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 8 has been rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geno et al. in view of Reese et al. and further in view of Brewster. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

As noted above, the teachings of Reese, relied upon for the tag construction, fails to teach that the sheet material portion of the tag is non-removably secured between the sleeve and the retainer.

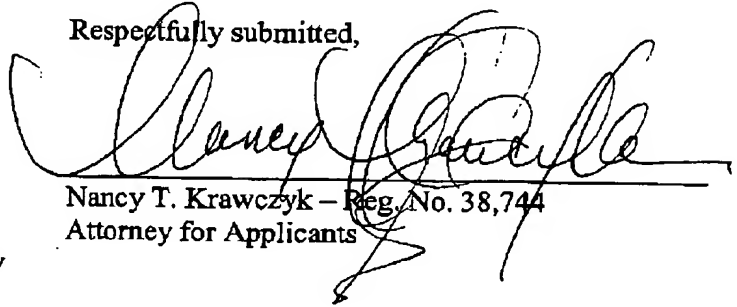
Brewster fails to remedy this deficiency.

It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

In light of the amendment and the arguments set forth, Applicant believes the claims now pending in the subject patent application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to indicate allowability of all the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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